DC STEM FAIR
Science Technology Engineering Math

INDIVIDUAL Non-Engineering Project Judging Scorecard*

Student's Name:	**Grade Level:**
Project Category:	**Project #:**
Project Title:	
Judge's Name:	**Final Score:**

	Superior	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Little or No Evidence
Creative Ability (20 points)					
1. The topic idea is original and/or innovative.	5	4	3	2	1
2. The approach to solving the problem is creative.	5	4	3	2	1
3. The student's research helped answer a question in a creative way.	5	4	3	2	1
4. The overall display significantly contributes to the project (i.e., grammar, spelling, formatting, etc. do not significantly detract from its meaning).	5	4	3	2	1

	Superior	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Little or No Evidence
Experimental Design Process (35 points)					
1. Presented a question that could be answered through experimentation.	5	4	3	2	1
2. Accessed a minimum of three, age-appropriate sources for background research, addressing all key scientific concepts of the projects.	5	4	3	2	1

	Superior	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Little or No Evidence
3. Developed a hypothesis based on the background reading and identified independent and dependent variables.	5	4	3	2	1
4. Developed a good experimental procedure for testing the hypothesis, including use of control variables.	5	4	3	2	1
5. Demonstrated ability to carry out the experimental procedure to an age-appropriate level of precision.	5	4	3	2	1
6. Solved problems that arose with the experimental procedure. If necessary, redesigned the procedure and tried experiment(s) again.	5	4	3	2	1
7. Investigated an original question or used an original approach or technique.	5	4	3	2	1
Data Collection & Conclusions (25 points)					
1. Ran a sufficient number of trials (if practical).	5	4	3	2	1
2. Derived conclusions from appropriately organized and summarized data.	5	4	3	2	1
3. Clearly related conclusions back to the hypothesis, key scientific concepts, and background research.	5	4	3	2	1
4. Included a clear visual representation of data collected/observations made (e.g., graphs, charts, pictures, diagrams).	5	4	3	2	1
5. Clear analysis of qualitative and quantitative data utilizing methods such as the calculation of mean or T-test, and/or the examination of possible patterns, themes, or relationships.	5	4	3	2	1
Skill (10 points)					
1. The project appears to represent the student's own work (i.e., the project is not a reflection of the work of an adult with the student offering minimal input).	5	4	3	2	1
2. Necessary scientific skill is demonstrated by the use of appropriate equipment and other materials. This includes appropriate safety precautions.	5	4	3	2	1
Presentation/Interview (15 points)					
1. The student's presentation/interview provides a thorough picture of the entire project as a whole.	5	4	3	2	1

	Superior	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Little or No Evidence
2. The student communicates effectively about the project (e.g., the student provides logical responses to questions and can defend the experimental design choices and conclusions that he/she made).	5	4	3	2	1
3. The student's lab notebook provides ample evidence of how the student thought through the experimental process and collected data.	5	4	3	2	1

Grand Award Recommendation

Do you recommend this project for consideration of a Grand Award? (circle your choice)	Yes	No

Final Comments/Recommendations for Improvement:

Total Score: _____/105

*Adapted from Science Buddies (http://www.sciencebuddies.org/science-fair projects/Teacher_ScienceFairGuide_JudgingScorecard_Engineering.pdf).